

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 OIC-02 AF-06 NEA-10 /133 W

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R 261810Z JUN 75

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 205

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 MTN GENEVA 4913

DEPT PASS ALL EC CAPITALS

PASS STR AND AGRICULTURE

PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJ: MTN: SUBGROUP MEETING ON MEAT JUNE 16-19

REF: A) STATE 138168; B) MTN GENEVA 4727

1. SUMMARY. THE SUBGROUP MEAT MET JUNE 16-19 AND REACHED

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AGREEMENT ON ITS WORK PROGRAM AFTER LENGTH AND DIFFICULT  
DISCUSSIONS. A MAJOR CONTROVERSY AROSE OVER THE EC

OBJECTION TO THE INCLUSION OF QUOTE LIBERALIZATION UNQUOTE  
IN THE WORK PROGRAM. THIS ISSUE WAS FINALLY RESOLVED IN  
A SERIES OF RESTRICTED MEETINGS. TOPICS RELATED TO THE  
EXPANSION AND LIBERALIZATION OF TRADE FIGURE PROMINENTLY  
IN THE WORK PROGRAM. END SUMMARY.

2. THE MEETING WAS OPENED BY LUCQ (GATT SECRETARIAT)  
WHO CHAIRED THE MEETING ON A TEMPORARY BASIS. INITIAL  
STATEMENTS WERE MADE BY THE PRINCIPAL EXPORTING AND  
IMPORTING COUNTRIES (AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, ARGENTINA,  
U.S. AND CANADA). WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ARGENTINA,  
THESE STATEMENTS STRESSED LIBERALIZATION AS A MAJOR  
OBJECTIVE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. MOST STATEMENTS ALSO  
STRESSED SECURITY OF ACCESS, STABILITY AND INTERNATIONAL  
COOPERATION AS OTHER MAJOR ISSUES.

3. U.S. (KOENIG), IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFTTEL A, STATED  
THAT U.S. CONSIDERS TRADE LIBERALIZATION IN THE MEAT  
SECTOR A MAJOR OBJECTIVE OF THE MTN. HE POINTED OUT  
THAT WORLD TRADE IN THIS IMPORTANT SECTOR COVERS A  
WIDE VARIETY OF COMMODITIES, IS OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE  
TO MANY COUNTRIES AND OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO THE US.  
THE US STRESSED LIBERALIZATION, IMPROVED MARKET ACCESS  
AND TRADE EXPANSION AS THE BEST MEANS OF RESTORING  
AND ENHANCING THE STABILITY OF THE WORLD MEAT ECONOMY.  
WE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE US AT PRESENT IS THE  
WORLD'S LARGEST MEAT IMPORTER. NOTWITHSTANDING THE  
MEAT LAW, US IMPORTS HAVE SIGNIFICANTLY EXPANDED IN  
RECENT YEARS. WE EMPHASIZED OUR WILLINGNESS TO  
COOPERATE IN A FLEXIBLE AND CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER WITH  
OTHER COUNTRIES. WE SUGGESTED THAT THE MEAT SUBGROUP  
ADDRESS ITSELF FIRST TO AN EXAMINATION OF THE CHARAC-  
TERISTICS AND PROBLEMS OF TRADE IN MEAT, MEAT PRODUCTS  
AND LIVE ANIMALS, AND THE MAJOR TRADE BARRIERS AND  
TRADE DISTORTING MEASURES IN THIS SECTOR. WE ALSO  
SUGGESTED THAT THE SECRETARIAT SUBMIT A REPORT  
LISTING ALL TRADE BARRIERS OF MAJOR MEAT EXPORTING AND  
IMPORTING COUNTRIES. THE US STRESSED THAT EVENTS OF  
THE PAST YEAR HAVE DEMONSTRATED THE NEED FOR AN  
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IMPROVED GENERAL MECHANISM RELATING TO SAFEGUARDS.  
LASTLY THE US STATED IT WOULD SEEK COMMON  
TRADING RULES FOR INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE. THE US  
EXPECTS THAT MEASURES AFFECTING MEAT WILL BE DISCUSSED  
IN OTHER APPROPRIATE GROUPS SUCH AS THE TARIFF AND  
NON-TARIFF MEASURES GROUP. (SEE SEPTTEL)

4. EC (JACQUOT) (APPARENTLY WITHOUT FIRM INSTRUCTIONS)  
STATED THAT HE HAD A PREPARED STATEMENT BUT THAT THE  
EC WOULD LIKE TO RECONSIDER ITS STATEMENT AND GIVE IT

AT THE SECOND PLENARY MEETING ON JUNE 17. THE EC WAS DISTURBED BY THE US STATEMENT THAT TRADE LIBERALIZATION IS A MAJOR OBJECTIVE OF THE MTN AND BY US AND AUSTRALIAN EMPHASIS ON DISCUSSING MEASURES AFFECTING MEAT ALSO IN OTHER APPROPRIATE GROUPS. JACQUOT STATED IT WAS NOT THE EC'S INTENTION TO QUOTE RIDE THE HORSE OF LIBERALIZATION IN THIS GROUP OR IN OTHER GROUPS UNQUOTE. HE SAID THAT WORK IN THE MEAT SUBGROUP IS NOT RELATED TO OTHER GROUPS.

5. JAPAN (YOSHIKUNI) STATED THAT THEY WERE NOT PREPARED TO GIVE THEIR COMPREHENSIVE VIEW OF HOW TO PROCEED AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT THAT JAPAN EMBARKED ON A PROGRAM FOR THE EXPANSION OF LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTION TEN YEARS AGO WITH THE AIM OF ACHIEVING A SELF-SUFFICIENCY RATION OF ABOUT 80 PERCENT BY 1980. FOR THE REMAINDER OF ITS NEEDS, JAPAN IS CONCERNED ABOUT SECURITY OF SUPPLIES. HOWEVER, JAP DEL CONCLUDED THAT A MULTILATERAL APPROACH TO TRADE BARRIERS IN THE MEAT SECTOR WAS NOT REALISTIC.

6. BOTH AUSTRALIA (WARWICK-SMITH) AND NEW ZEALAND (EASTERBROOK-SMITH) STRESSED THE NEED FOR ACCESS, LIBERALIZATION, FUNDAMENTAL NEGOTIATIONS ON TRADE BARRIERS AND RESTRICTIONS, SECURITY FOR IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS ALIKE, AND INCREASED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. THEY STATED THAT THE NATIONAL POLICIES APPLIED BY CERTAIN MAJOR IMPORTING COUNTRIES ARE THE PRIME REASON THREATENING SECURITY OF SUPPLY. BOTH COUNTRIES SPOKE OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR SECURITY OR ASSURANCE OF MARKETS. AUSTRALIA REFERRED TO QUOTE NEW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FORMS OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION WITH PERHAPS SOME KIND OF UMBRELLA UNQUOTE. NEW ZEALAND SAID IT WOULD SEEK ACCESS COMMITMENTS FROM INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANTS SO THAT IN AGGREGATE WORLD BEEF TRADE WOULD ACHIEVE A MEASURE OF SECURITY. NEW ZEALAND DID NOT ENVISAGE A MULTILATERAL SOLUTION, OF THE CLASSICAL COMMODITY AGREEMENT TYPE, BUT QUOTE A STITCHING TOGETHER OF ESSENTIALLY NATIONAL COMMITMENTS UNQUOTE. BOTH COUNTRIES ACKNOWLEDGED THE POSITIVE ELEMENTS OF THE US MEAT IMPORT LAW (I.E., SECURITY OF A BASIC MINIMUM IMPORT TONNAGE AAND A GROWTH FACTOR) AND INDICATED THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE THIS CONCEPT EXPLORED AND BUILT ON DURING THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

7. ARGENTINA (MARTINEZ) STRESSED EXPANSION OF TRADE IN BOVINE MEAT, SPOKE OF INTERNATIONALIZATION OF MARKETS, CONCERTED ACTIONS, INTERNATIONAL PRICE STABILIZATION, AND THE ADOPTION OF A SYSTEM OF PLEDGES TO ASSURE

ADEQUATE SUPPLIES AND DEMAND AS THE MEANS OF ACHIEVING  
THE ENDS.

8. EC (JACQUOT) SPEAKING ON THE MORNING OF THE SECOND  
DAY STATED THAT THE MAIN EFFORT OF THE SUB-GROUP SHOULD  
BE DIRECTED TO AVOID THE RECURRENCE OF THE RECENT  
EXTREME SITUATIONS. HENCE A SEARCH FOR GREATER  
STABILITY AND INCREASED PREDICTABILITY IN THE  
INTERNATIONAL MEAT TRADE IS NECESSARY. TO THIS END  
THE EC PROPOSED TO STRENGTHEN THE PRESENT MACHINERY  
FOR MUTUAL INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION AND TO IMPROVE  
THE MARKET FORECASTING SYSTEM. IN REGARD TO LIBERALIZATION  
AND ESPECIALLY TO DISMANTLING OF IMPORTS BARRIERS,

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED EC CAPITALS.

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THE COMMUNITY ALLUDED TO PARAGRAPH 3(E) OF THE TOKYO DECLARATION AND TO EARLIER STATEMENTS RELATING TO RESPECT FOR THE PRINCIPLES AND THE MACHINERY OF THE CAP. EC DEL ASSERTED THE ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR JOINT RESPONSIBILITY OF EXPORTERS AS WELL AS IMPORTERS IN THE ATTAINMENT OF SUCH SOLUTIONS. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE ACTIONS OF IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS BE COORDINATED SO AS TO ENSURE THAT INTERNATIONAL TRANS-ACTIONS BE CARRIED OUT IN AN ORDERLY MANNER.  
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ACCORDING TO EC DEL, THIS WOULD MEAN THAT EXPORTERS CONDUCT THEIR EXPORT POLICIES IN SUCH A MANNER THAT THEIR SUPPLIES AND PRICES BE CONSISTENT WITH THE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE IMPORTING COUNTRIES. FOR IMPORTING COUNTRIES, IT WOULD MEAN QUOTE REFLECTING IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THEIR IMPORT REGIME, THE UNDERTAKINGS GIVEN BY EXPORTERS TO THE CONTENT AND MODALITIES OF ANY ADJUSTMENTS WHICH MIGHT BE AGREED. UNQUOTE. (SIC) THE EC STATED THAT IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ESTABLISH AGREED RULES AND DISCIPLINES BETWEEN IMPORTING AND EXPORTING COUNTRIES TO ENSURE GREATER STABILITY AND PREDICTABILITY. THE EC ADVANCED A TWO STAGE WORK PROGRAM. THE FIRST PHASE WOULD CONSIST OF AN ANALYSIS OF THE STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOVINE MEAT SECTOR (INCLUDING LIVE ANIMALS) IN ALL ITS FORMS; AND A SECOND PHASE OF A SEARCH FOR MEANS OF BRINGING MORE ORDER INTO THE INTERNATIONAL MEAT MARKET BASED ON(A) ISSUES RELATING TO THE STRENGTHENING OF INFORMATION (ARRANGEMENTS AND MACHINERY FOR INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION); AND (B) ISSUES RELATING TO THE COORDINATION OF ACTIONS BY IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS.

9. YUGOSLAVIA (TOMIC) POINTED OUT THAT THERE WERE MANY ELEMENTS IN THE EC PROPOSALS THAT WOULD BE OF USE TO THE GROUP. HOWEVER, HE STRESSED THE NEED TO GO BEYOND THE POINTS MADE BY THE EEC BECAUSE THESE WERE NOT MATTERS THAT COULD BE NEGOTIATED. YUGOSLAVIA STATED THAT THE SUB-GROUP SHOULD NEGOTIATE ON THE MEASURES THAT RESTRICT, DISTORT AND DISRUPT TRADE.

10. OTHER DELEGATIONS (HUNGARY, URUGUAY, ROMANIA, BRAZIL, AUSTRIA, SWITZERLAND, POLAND AND NORWAY MADE STATEMENTS THAT REPEATED OR AMPLIFIED EARLIER STATEMENTS

BY OTHERS. WIDE SUPPORT EXISTED FOR INCLUDING IN THE WORK PROGRAM TOPICS RELATING TO LIBERALIZATION, INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, SECURITY AND STABILITY OF MARKETS.

11. DURING THE PLENARY SESSIONS, THE EC OBJECTED TO A PROPOSAL MADE BY US THAT THE SUB-GROUP SHOULD DEAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INITIALLY WITH BOVINE MEAT AND LIVE ANIMALS BUT SHOULD ALSO LEAVE THE PRODUCT COVERAGE OPEN SO THAT AT A LATER STAGE OTHER MEATS COULD BE INCLUDED IN THE WORK OF THE SUB-GROUP. THE EC STATED THAT IF THE SUB-GROUP WANTED TO EXPAND ITS WORK PROGRAM IT SHOULD GO BACK TO GROUP "AGRICULTURE". AFTER LENGTHY DISCUSSIONS AND SUPPORT FROM MOST COUNTRIES FOR THE US PROPOSAL, THE EC CONCEDED THAT THE GROUP WAS COMPETENT TO DEAL WITH ALL MEATS (INCLUDING LIVE ANIMALS).

12. ON THE QUESTION OF THE FIRST PHASE OF THE GROUP'S FUTURE WORK, THE US, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, AND OTHERS HAD SUGGESTED THAT THE GROUP UNDERTAKE AN ANALYSIS OF TRADE BARRIERS AND TRADE DISTORTING PRACTICES. THE EC OBJECTED SAYING THIS WOULD BE REPETITIOUS AND IRRELEVANT. WHAT WAS RELEVANT FOR THE EC WERE RECENT CHANGES IN THE STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION OF WORLD TRADE. THESE ISSUES SHOULD BE ANALYZED. AS A COMPROMISE, BOTH PROPOSALS WERE INCLUDED IN THE FINAL WORK PROGRAM.

13. AGREEMENT ON THE SECOND STAGE OF THE WORK PROGRAM PROVED TO BE MOST DIFFICULT. THE EC INSISTED THAT THE TERM LIBERALIZATION NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE WORK PROGRAM. THE EC ALSO PROPOSED THAT THE GROUP SHOULD AVOID TERMS SUCH AS TRADE DISTORTION, SUPPLY ACCESS, SECURITY, ETC. IN ITS VIEW THE SECOND STAGE OF THE GROUP'S WORK SHOULD BE DEVOTED TO A SEARCH FOR A BETTER MARKET ORDER, I.E., CONSULTATION AND INFORMATION. IN THE END A COMPROMISE WAS REACHED. THE SUBGROUP AGREED TO A SECOND STAGE WORK PROGRAM THAT INCLUDES DEALING WITH ALL THE ELEMENTS OF ALL PROPOSALS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE, SUCH AS EXPANSION AND EVER-GREATER LIBERALIZATION OF TRADE WHICH FIGURES PROMINENTLY IN THE WORK PROGRAM (SEE SEPTTEL).

14. THE DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING (PROBABLY IN OCTOBER) WILL BE SET IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DELEGATIONS. HARTZELL

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## Message Attributes

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